

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 VALLET 00246 061559Z

62

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SAM-01

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 AID-20 DODE-00 DRC-01 /098 W

----- 080294

R 061232Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5227

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VALLETTA 0246

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, MT

SUBJ: WAGE LEVELS IN MALTA

IN CONVERSATION WITH MALTESE OFFICIAL JOE ATTARD KINGSWELL
FEB 5, WE ASKED IF IT WERE NOT LIKELY THAT A SIGNIFICANT
WAGE INCREASE WOULD HAVE TO BE GRANTED IN BOTH GOVERNMENT
AND PRIVATE SECTORS THIS YEAR. NOTING THAT SUBSTANTIAL
INCREASES HAVE OR WILL SOON TAKE PLACE IN GASOLINE,
DIESEL, ELECTRICITY, WATER, AS WELL AS CERTAIN CONSUMER
GOODS, WE SUGGESTED THAT WAGE INCREASES IN ORDER OF
TWO MALTESE POUNDS PER WEEK MIGHT WELL BE NECESSARY.
KINGSWELL, WHO IS FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL OF GENERAL
WORKERS UNION, AGREED THAT THIS FIGURE MIGHT WELL
PROVE TO BE THE CASE. WITHOUT SPECULATING ON TIMING,
HE AGREED THAT ACCUMULATING PRESSURES WOULD FORCE
SUCH A RISE THIS YEAR. AT THE SAME TIME, KINGSWELL
FELT THAT LABOR COSTS IN WESTERN EUROPE HAVE BEEN
RISING AT SUCH A RATE THAT MALTA'S RELATIVE ADVANTAGE
COULD BE MAINTAINED. THIS FACTOR ALONE, THEREFORE,
SHOULD NOT SERIOUSLY INHIBIT PROSPECTS FOR ATTRACTING
NEW INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT. SINCE NON-WAGE BENEFITS
ARE EXTREMELY LOW IN MALTA, EVEN A 10 PERCENT RISE IN
WAGES SHOULD NOT SERIOUSLY AFFECT MALTA'S LABOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 VALLET 00246 061559Z

COMPETITIVENESS.GETZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COST OF LIVING WAGE ADJUSTMENT, PRICE STABILITY, PRICE TRENDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VALLET00246
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740250/aaaabviy.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAY 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <03 JUN 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WAGE LEVELS IN MALTA IN CONVERSATION WITH MALTESE OFFICIAL JOE ATTARD KINGSWELL
TAGS: ELAB, MT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005